

The *Protocols*, supposedly the record of secret meetings of Jewish leaders, describes an alleged conspiracy to dominate the world. The conspiracy and its leaders, the so-called Elders of Zion, never existed. Although the *Protocols* has been proven a fraud on many occasions, it continues to inspire those who seek to spread hatred of Jews.

1864

French political satirist Maurice Joly writes *The Dialogue in Hell Between Machiavelli and Montesquieu*. Joly's book never mentions Jews, but much of the *Protocols* would be fabricated based on ideas contained in it.

1868

Prussian writer Hermann Goedsche publishes the novel *Biarritz*, in which the twelve tribes of Israel meet secretly in Prague's Jewish cemetery. Goedsche's book, like Joly's, contains ideas incorporated in fabricating the *Protocols*.

1897-1899

Although the origin of the *Protocols* is still a matter of debate, it was most likely fabricated under the direction of Pyotr Rachovsky, chief of the foreign branch of the Russian secret police (*Okhrana*) in Paris.

1903

An abbreviated version of the *Protocols* is published in a St. Petersburg, Russia, newspaper, *Znamya* (*The Banner*).

1905

Russian mystic Sergei Nilus includes the *Protocols* as an appendix to his book, *The Great in the Small: The Coming of the Anti-Christ and the Rule of Satan on Earth*. By 1917, Nilus publishes four editions of the *Protocols* in Russia.

1920

The first non-Russian language edition of the *Protocols* is issued in Germany.

1920

The *Protocols* is published in Poland, France, England, and the United States. These editions blame the Russian Revolution on Jewish conspirators and warn of Bolshevism spreading to the West.

1920

Lucien Wolf, a British journalist and diplomat, exposes the *Protocols* as a fraudulent plagiarism in *The Jewish Bogey and the Forged Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*.

1920

Automaker Henry Ford's *Dearborn Independent* publishes *The International Jew*, an Americanized version of the *Protocols*. *The International Jew* is translated into more than one dozen languages.

August 16-18, 1921

Journalist Phillip Graves exposes the *Protocols* as a plagiarism in series of articles in London *Times*.

[The Times, August 17, 1921](#)

1921

New York *Herald* reporter Herman Bernstein publishes *The History of a Lie: The Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion*, the first exposure of the *Protocols* as a fraud for an American audience.

1923

Nazi theorist [Alfred Rosenberg](#) writes *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion and Jewish World Policy*. Rosenberg's book reaches a wide audience, necessitating three printings within the year.



Alfred Rosenberg's 1923 commentary on the Protocols of the Elders of Zion

Alfred Rosenberg's 1923 commentary on the Protocols reinforced Nazi anti-Jewish ideology. This is the fourth edition. Published in Munich, 1933.

- US Holocaust Memorial Museum

1924

Benjamin Segel, a German-Jewish journalist, exposes the *Protocols* as a forgery in his *Die Protokolle der Weisen von Zion, kritisch beleuchtet* (*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, Critically Illuminated*).

1924

Joseph Goebbels, later the Nazi Minister of [Public Enlightenment and Propaganda](#), writes in his diary:

"I believe that *The Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion* are a forgery. . . . [However,] I believe in the intrinsic but not the factual truth of the *Protocols*."

1925-1926

In his treatise, [Mein Kampf](#), Adolf Hitler writes:

"To what an extent the whole existence of this people is based on a continuous lie is shown by the *Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion*, so infinitely hated by the Jews. . . . For once this book has become the common property of a people, the Jewish menace may be considered as broken."

1927

Henry Ford issues a public apology for publishing the *Protocols*, which he admits are "gross forgeries." Ford directs that remaining copies of *The International Jew* be burned, and he orders overseas publishers to cease publishing the book. Ford's directives to foreign publishers are ignored.

1933

Nazis rise to power in Germany. The Nazi Party publishes at least 23 editions of the *Protocols* before World War II begins.

1935

A Berne, Switzerland, court rules against a party of Swiss Nazis charged with circulating the *Protocols* at a pro-Nazi demonstration.

Walter Meyer, the presiding justice at the trial, refers to the *Protocols* as “ridiculous nonsense.”

1938

US “Radio priest” Father [Charles E. Coughlin](#) serializes the *Protocols* in his newspaper, *Social Justice*.

1943

An edition of the *Protocols* is issued in German-occupied Poland.

1964

The US Senate Judiciary Committee issues a report titled *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion: A Fabricated "Historic" Document*. The committee concludes: “The subcommittee believes that the peddlers of the *Protocols* are peddlers of un-American prejudice who spread hate and dissension among the American people.”

1974

The *Protocols* is published in India under the title *International Conspiracy Against Indians*.

1985

An English-language edition of *Protocols*, published by the Islamic Propagation Organization, is issued in Iran.

1988

Article 32 of the Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS) reads: “The Zionist plan is limitless. After Palestine, the Zionists aspire to expand from the Nile to the Euphrates. When they will have digested the region they overtook, they will aspire to further expansion, and so on. Their plan is embodied in the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, and their present conduct is the best proof of what we are saying.”

1993

The *Protocols* is declared a fraud in a Moscow trial of Pamyat, an ultra-nationalist Russian organization that published the *Protocols* in 1992.

2002

Egyptian satellite television broadcasts a 41-part miniseries *Horseman Without a Horse*, which is based largely on the *Protocols*.

2002

The US Senate passes a resolution urging the government of Egypt

and other Arab states not to allow government-controlled television to broadcast any program that lends legitimacy to the *Protocols*.

2003

A 30-part television miniseries called *Al Shatat (The Diaspora)* airs on Hizbullah's Al-Manar TV. The series depicts a “global Jewish government,” as described in the *Protocols*.

2003

An exhibition of holy books of monotheistic religions at the Alexandria Library in Egypt includes a copy of the *Protocols* next to the Torah. UNESCO issues a public denunciation of the Alexandria Library exhibition.

2004

The *Protocols* is published in Okinawa, Japan.

2005

A edition of the *Protocols* published in Mexico City suggests that the [Holocaust](#) was orchestrated by the Elders of Zion in exchange for the founding of the State of Israel.

2005

An edition of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, authorized by the Syrian Ministry of Information, claims that the Elders of Zion coordinated the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

2007

A typical Internet search for the *Protocols* yields several hundred thousand sites.